

What is claimed is:

1. A service executing method employing a plurality of devices and a server which manages the devices to permit one or more of the devices to provide services in coordination with one another, the method comprising:

prompting the user to select a service from a provided service menu;
acquiring a service logic where specifications for implementing the selected service are described;
selecting devices having functions required for carrying out the service based on the service logic according to profile information;
acquiring the right to use the selected functions;
extracting service components involving configuration information for the functions based on the service logic;
generating adaptors from the extracted service components; and
delivering the generated adaptors to the devices which are to carry out the service; and
receiving the adaptors to carry out the service according to information in the adaptors.

2. The method according to claim 1 further comprising generating a group encryption key, and delivering the group encryption key, together with the adaptors, to the devices.

3. The method according to claim 1 further comprising authenticating the user when the user makes access and selects functions.

4. The method according to claim 1 wherein with respect to the devices' own embedded functions, the devices manage function types for identifying the functions in common and the attributes of the functions.

5. The method according to claim 4 wherein with respect to the devices under the control of a server, the server manages addresses for accessing the devices, context information on position, right to use, the function types notified from the devices, and the attributes.

6. The method according to claim 1 wherein the server manages service users, service management numbers, the identifiers of presently used functions, the identifiers of functions which can be used in the service, and the group encryption key.

7. The method according to claim 1 wherein the service components contain information on the functions as the targets of setting, programs to be downloaded to the devices having the functions, and the details of connection setting for the application interfaces of the functions and the programs.

8. The method according to claim 1 wherein the adaptor contains the service component, service identification number, and a group encryption key used to communicate with external functions.

9. The method according to claim 1 wherein the devices transmit and receive the data.

10. The method according to claim 1 further comprising:
requesting the server to change the function to be used with the service identification number of the currently used service and the group encryption key for use in the service attached to the request;
verifying whether the service identification number and the group encryption key are matched with those registered;
determining whether there is conflict in use of the function the change to which is requested;
inquiring of the present holder of the right to use about transfer of the right to determine whether the right to use is transferable if there is conflict,
searching for another function if the right to use is not transferable and request to change the function again;
acquiring the right to use if transferable; and
updating the group encryption key, generating the messages again, and delivering the messages to the devices.

11. A service providing system employing a plurality of devices and a server which manages the devices to permit one or more of a plurality of the devices to provide services in coordination with one another, wherein the device used by a user has

a unit which prompts the user to select a service from a provided service menu and acquires a service logic where specifications for implementing the selected service are described; wherein the server has

a unit which selects devices having functions required for carrying out the service based on the service logic according to profile information;

a unit which acquires the right to use the selected functions;

a unit which extracts service components involving configuration information for the functions based on the service logic;

a unit which generates adaptors from the extracted service components; and

a unit which delivers the generated adaptors to the devices which are to carry out the service; and wherein the devices which are to carry out the service comprise

a unit which receives the adaptor from the server and carries out the service according to information in the adaptor.

12. A processing program for a server in a service providing system employing a plurality of devices and the server which manages the devices to permit one or more of a plurality of the devices to provide services in coordination with one another, wherein the program comprises:

a program for selecting devices having functions required for carrying out a service based on a service logic wherein specifications for implementing the service selected by a user from a service menu according to profile information;

a program for acquiring the right to use the selected functions;

a program for extracting service components involving configuration information for the functions based on the service logic;

a program for generating adaptors from the extracted service components; and

a program for delivering the generated adaptors to the devices which are to carry out the service.